

Message Text

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ORIGIN EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 L-03 PRS-01 IGA-02 OMB-01 MC-02 TRSE-00 /052 R

DRAFTED BY EA/TB:GBROBERTS:MGH

APPROVED BY EA:RHMILLER

EA/RA-PMU:COL BAILEY (DRAFT)

PM/SAS:DJJAMES

OSD/ISA:LTC KING(INFO)

S/S:JLHOGANSON

NSC: TBARNES

----- 037146

P 261653Z DEC 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY JAKARTA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

SECDEF

CINCPAC

COUSMACTHAI

S E C R E T STATE 303449

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MILI, MASS, TH, US, LA

SUBJECT: DISPOSITION OF RLAF AIRCRAFT

REFS: A. BANGKOK 26486 (DTG 191129Z DEC 75)

B. CINCPAC 200327Z DEC 75; C. USMACTHAI 221047Z DEC 75

1. THE DEPARTMENT BELIEVES IT IS IMPORTANT TO GET THE
PROBLEM OF THE EX-LAO AIRCRAFT SETTLED AS QUICKLY AS
POSSIBLE. AT THE SAME TIME, WE AGREE WITH CINCPAC
(REF B) THAT OUR INTERESTS WILL BE WELL SERVED BY ALLO-

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CATING THESE ASSETS TO THE PHILIPPINES. WE ARE ALSO

MINDFUL THAT IT WOULD BE ADVANTAGEOUS TO HAVE THESE AIRCRAFT OUT OF THAILAND AND THUS UNAVAILABLE SHOULD CHAT-CHAI AT SOME FUTURE TIME BE TEMPTED TO GO BACK ON HIS WORD AND RETURN THEM TO LAOS.

2. YOU ARE THUS AUTHORIZED TO MAKE FULL USE WITH THE SUPREME COMMAND OF THE C-123 RATIONALE SET FORTH IN STATE 300176. YOU SHOULD ALSO OFFER THE FIVE UH-34'S AS SUGGESTED IN REF C. (FYI. AS INDICATED IN JAKARTA' 15691 (DTG 231010Z DEC 75), INDONESIA HAS NEVER SPECIFICALLY BEEN OFFERED THESE H-34'S. HOWEVER, JAKARTA'S 11950 (DTG 260820Z SEP 75) INDICATES INDONESIA COULD MAKE GOOD USE OF THESE AIRCRAFT ONLY IF THEY ARE IN

GOOD CONDITION. BANGKOK'S 20630 (DTG 301042Z SEP 75) INDICATES THE H-34'S ARE IN POOR CONDITION AND NOT TO BE FLOWN AS-IS. DESPITE CHUSDLG/DJAKARTA'S 240740Z DEC 75, WHICH INDICATES THE GOI MIGHT RECEIVE A FORMAL OFFER FAVORABLY, WE THINK THE H-34'S CAN BE BETTER USED IN THIS EFFORT TO RESOLVE THE EX-LAO T-28 PROBLEM QUICKLY AND SATISFACTORILY. END FYI.)

3. IF YOU THINK IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IN SETTTLING THIS PROBLEM AS RAPIDLY AS POSSIBLE, YOU COULD POINT OUT TO THE THAI THAT IF THE AIRCRAFT SHOULD REMAIN IN THAILAND, THEY COULD CAUSE PROBLEMS SHOULD THE RTG WISH AT SOME POINT TO ENCOURAGE A WARMING TREND IN THAI-LAO RELATIONS. MOREOVER, IF DESPITE EVERYONE'S BEST INTENTIONS, THEY SHOULD SOMEHOW FIND THEIR WAY BACK TO LAOS, THE EFFECT ON THAI-U.S. RELATIONS COULD BE SUCH AS TO OUTWEIGH BY FAR ANY POSSIBLE SHORT-TERM ADVANTAGE THE THAI MIGHT GAIN FROM HAVING THE USE OF THESE MODIFIED T-28D'S.

4. IF AFTER YOUR MAKING USE OF ALL THE ABOVE POINTS, THE SUPREME COMMAND REMAINS ADAMANT IN WANTING TO RETAIN THE EX-LAO T-28'S, PLEASE LET US KNOW AND WE WILL PROVIDE FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS. SISCO

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SURPLUS WEAPONS DISPOSAL, MILITARY AIRCRAFT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE303449
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: GBROBERTS:MGH
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750448-0245
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751211/aaaaaizt.tel
Line Count: 98
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 BANGKOK 26486
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 16 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <16 JUL 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <17 NOV 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DISPOSITION OF RLAF AIRCRAFT
TAGS: PFOR, MILI, MASS, TH, US, LA
To: BANGKOK
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006